



430 Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 SEP 2000  
Express Mail Label No.: EL636302622US

09/646741

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. CMM-009

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Rudduck  
SERIAL NO.: Not Yet Assigned GROUP NO.: Not Yet Assigned  
FILING DATE: Herewith EXAMINER: Not Yet Assigned  
TITLE: FIXING AND RELEASE SYSTEMS

#5  
12-15-00  
DRS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicants hereby make of record the references listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of the references are enclosed.

REMARKS

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97, this statement is being filed (CHECK ONE):

- ☒ (1) within three (3) months of the **Filing Date** or before the mailing date of the **First Office Action** on the merits; or
- ☐ (2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a **Final Rejection** or **Notice of Allowance**, and
- ☐ the requisite Statement is below, **OR**
- ☐ the requisite fee under Rule 1.17(p), namely **\$240.00**, is included herein, or
- ☐ (3) after the mailing date of a **Final Rejection** or **Notice of Allowance** but before the payment of the **Issue Fee**, **AND**
- ☐ Applicant hereby Petitions the Commissioner to accept and consider the attached Information Disclosure Statement, **AND**
- ☐ the requisite Statement is below, **AND**

09/646741

400 Need PTO

18 SEP 2000

☐ the requisite petition fee due under Rule 1.17(i)(I), namely \$130.00 is included herein.

It is respectfully requested that each of the references shown on the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

### STATEMENT

As required under §1.97(e), Applicants, through the undersigned, hereby state either that [check the appropriate space]:

- ☐ 1. [E]ach item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application **not more than** three months prior to the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement; or
- ☐ 2. [N]o item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to **any** individual designated in §1.56(c) **more than** three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

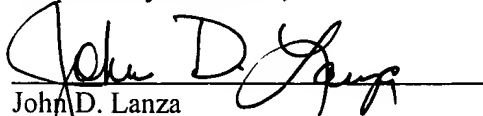
### FEE AUTHORIZATION

Should any fee associated with the submission of this paper not be attached hereto as a check, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the missing fee to our Deposit Account, No. 20-0531. Any overpayments should be credited to said Deposit Account.

Date: September 18, 2000  
Reg. No. 40,060

Tel. No.: (617) 248-7604  
Fax No.: (617) 248-7100

Respectfully submitted,

  
John D. Lanza  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Testa, Hurwitz, & Thibault, LLP  
High Street Tower  
125 High Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110